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Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

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Note

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Contents

Chapter		*Page*
I.	Introduction	4
II.	Membership, composition, terms of reference and organization of the work of the Committee	5
III.	Topics dealt with by the Committee	6
	A. Entry visas issued by the host country	6
	B. Host country activities: activities to assist members of the United Nations community	7
	C. Other matters	8
IV.	Recommendations and conclusions	10
Annexes		
I.	List of topics for consideration by the Committee	12
II.	List of documents	13

Chapter I
Introduction

1. The Committee on Relations with the Host Country was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI). The Assembly, by its resolution 69/128, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country". The present report is submitted pursuant to resolution 69/128.

2. The report consists of four chapters. The recommendations and conclusions of the Committee are contained in chapter IV.

Chapter II
Membership, composition, terms of reference and organization of the work of the Committee

3. The Committee is composed of 19 members, as follows:

Bulgaria	Iraq
Canada	Libya
China	Malaysia
Costa Rica	Mali
Côte d'Ivoire	Russian Federation
Cuba	Senegal
Cyprus	Spain
France	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Honduras	
Hungary	United States of America

4. The Bureau of the Committee consists of the Chair, the three Vice-Chairs, the Rapporteur and a representative of the host country who attends Bureau meetings ex officio. During the reporting period, the Bureau was composed as follows:

Chair:
Nicholas Emiliou (Cyprus)

Vice-Chairs:
Boyan Belev (Bulgaria)
Giles Andrew Norman (Canada)
Koffi Narcisse Date (Côte d'Ivoire)

Rapporteur:
Georgina Guillén-Grillo (Costa Rica)

5. At its 272nd meeting, the Committee was informed of the departure of Boyan Belev (Bulgaria), who had served as Vice-Chair.

6. The terms of reference of the Committee were determined by the General Assembly in its resolution 2819 (XXVI). In May 1992, the Committee adopted, and in March 1994 slightly modified, a detailed list of topics for its consideration, which is set out in annex I to the present report. The Committee issued three documents during the reporting period, which are listed in annex II.

7. During the reporting period, the Committee held the following meetings: the 270th meeting, on 11 February 2015; the 271st meeting, on 1 May 2015; the 272nd meeting, on 30 July 2015; the 273rd meeting, on 5 October 2015; and the 274th meeting, on 30 October 2015.

Chapter III
Topics dealt with by the Committee

A. Entry visas issued by the host country

8. At the 272nd meeting, the observer for the State of Palestine expressed his regret regarding the obstacles faced by Palestinian diplomats in acquiring entry visas from the host country, noting that it had taken two and a half months for his visa to the United States of America to be issued. Furthermore, the visa issued was valid for only one year, and renewing the visa could take approximately two months and required constant follow-up. He faced many problems due to the visa's short validity period and lengthy renewal process. If he travelled out of the United States for official duties and his visa expired while travelling, it would take him another two months or more to renew his visa before he could return to the United States, which would result in an interruption in his diplomatic duties, as other Palestinian diplomats who preceded him had experienced. He looked forward to resolving these issues with the authorities of the host country.

9. At the 273rd meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation informed the Committee of the inability of the Chair of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Valentina Matvienko, to attend the meetings held under the auspices of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) from 31 August to 2 September 2015 in the United Nations building due to issues concerning the issuance of an entry visa by the host country. His delegation had sent a note verbale to the United States Mission to the United Nations on this issue, to which there had not yet been a response. It was not the first occasion in which the United States had taken a selective and discriminatory approach to the issuance of entry visas. He recalled that the denial of entry visas in connection with IPU events had been considered by the Committee in the past. In 2000, following a conclusion by the Committee on this issue, the Secretary-General had approached the authorities of the host country with a special request to review an initial decision to deny an entry visa that had been requested in connection with an IPU event that year.

10. He also noted that IPU had been granted observer status at the General Assembly in 2002. Resolution 68/272 referred to the interaction between IPU and the United Nations. In particular, in paragraph 5 of that resolution, the General Assembly envisaged that the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament would be held at United Nations Headquarters, as part of the series of high-level meetings in 2015. Ms. Matvienko had been invited to the Conference. The wording of the resolution provided sufficient justification to consider that IPU event as part of official United Nations business, as defined in section 11 of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, and therefore unimpeded access should have been granted. The issuance of visas for that event was not a matter of courtesy but a legal requirement. His delegation was waiting for a response from the United States Mission and would consider what further action would be warranted on the basis of the response received.

11. The representative of the host country noted that a diplomatic G visa to enter the United States to attend a meeting with the Secretary-General had been issued to Ms. Matvienko on 26 August 2015, but that she had apparently decided in the end

not to travel to the United States. With regard to the note verbale issued by the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation, his delegation would discuss this matter bilaterally with the delegation of the Russian Federation and decide on an appropriate response in due course.

12. The representative of Cuba expressed her delegation's view that Member States should respect and meet all of their legal obligations, particularly those under the Headquarters Agreement. Her delegation hoped that the necessary measures would be taken by the host country authorities to ensure that such incidents did not recur.

13. The representative of China stated that his delegation trusted that, on the basis of the clarification of facts provided, the matter would be appropriately handled on the basis of the Headquarters Agreement and the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

14. In response to the statement by the representative of the host country, the representative of the Russian Federation wished to clarify that, while a visa had been issued by the United States to Ms. Matvienko, it came with restrictions that made it impossible for her to attend the IPU meeting.

15. The Chair stated that the Committee took the issue of the timely granting of visas by the host country for the purpose of attending United Nations meetings seriously and that the Committee would continue to monitor that matter and the issuance of visas in general. It was his understanding that, irrespective of the close relationship between IPU and the United Nations, the event in question had not been a United Nations meeting. The Committee would await a response in writing from the host country to the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation and would be prepared to consider the matter further, if necessary.

16. The representative of the Russian Federation stated that, while IPU events and United Nations events are not exactly the same, his delegation's legal analysis had concluded that the IPU event should be considered as official United Nations business, pursuant to a proper reading of General Assembly resolution 68/272. This was a recent resolution, which had introduced new elements into the relationship between the United Nations and IPU. He urged all Member States to take note of that development.

B. Host country activities: activities to assist members of the United Nations community

17. At the 271st meeting, the observer for the Syrian Arab Republic informed the Committee that banking services had been granted by the United Nations Federal Credit Union to members of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic. He expressed his delegation's gratitude to the Chair and the representatives of the host country for their assistance in that regard.

18. The observer for the Islamic Republic of Iran recalled that difficulties faced by missions in obtaining bank accounts in the host country were an ongoing problem. He was aware of at least one other mission that had not been able to obtain a bank account. He requested further information from the Chair about whether any discussions were under way with representatives of the host country to resolve this issue.

19. The Chair stated that he was aware of the continued difficulties faced by certain delegations in obtaining bank accounts and noted that the United Nations Federal Credit Union was currently prepared to provide banking facilities to any delegation or diplomat. With regard to the difficulties faced by certain missions, he discussed the issues bilaterally with the mission concerned to determine the nature of the problems faced and the possible solutions available.

20. At the 272nd meeting, the representative of the host country informed the Committee that an information session on the logistics concerning the arrival of dignitaries and delegations ahead of the high-level segment of the seventieth session of the General Assembly, including transportation and security matters, would be held on 3 September 2015. Representatives of the administrative personnel of all delegations had been invited and encouraged to attend the information session. All delegations were also encouraged to submit in advance any queries concerning attendance at the high-level segment to the representatives of the host country.

C. Other matters

21. At the 270th meeting, the Committee agreed to meet in informal consultations to consider paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 69/128 on additional appropriate measures to enhance the work of the Committee and its effectiveness. Informal consultations were held on 24 February 2015, attended by members of the Committee and observers.

22. At the 273rd meeting, the Chair recalled that, at the end of the informal consultations, he had invited all delegations to submit their proposals in writing in order to further the discussions on paragraph 12 of resolution 69/128 on additional appropriate measures to enhance the work of the Committee and its effectiveness in the formal sessions of the Committee. He had not received any written proposals. It was important for the Committee to maintain flexibility in holding its meetings, especially given its mandate and the nature of its work. Such flexibility should be properly balanced against the need to ensure that the documents and reports of the Committee were issued in a timely manner, and it was his intention to achieve that balance. Members and observers were still welcome to submit any proposals that they might have on enhancing the work of the Committee and its effectiveness for consideration by the Committee.

23. The observer for Serbia wished to inform the Committee of his delegation's strong objection to the participation of representatives of Kosovo in an event organized by the United States at Headquarters on 29 September 2015. His delegation regarded the decision by the United States to issue a visa to the representatives of Kosovo to participate in that event as a severe violation of the Headquarters Agreement, the mandate of the United Nations and the applicable practice, rules and procedure. Representatives of Kosovo had attended briefings to the Security Council on the quarterly reports of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and well-established practice. His delegation had informed the Secretary-General that it considered this action to be a violation of the status-neutral position of the United Nations on Kosovo and requested clarification of the grounds on which representatives of Kosovo had been allowed to participate in the event.

24. The representative of the Russian Federation stated that his delegation was also concerned that an invitation had been issued by the United States to Kosovo, although Kosovo was not a State or a Member State of the United Nations. Representatives of Kosovo could not be allowed on United Nations premises except under specific circumstances and accompanied by members of the Secretariat. He was concerned that the representatives of Kosovo were being put on an equal footing with representatives of Member States on the basis of the invitation by the United States. As far as he was aware, United Nations officials in the Secretariat had protested against this situation, but their objections had not been properly addressed by those who had organized the meeting. Such actions by the delegation of the United States undermined the standing of the United Nations and the Secretary-General and were a violation of the rules governing the Organization. In addition, a few years ago, a Member State had suggested inviting representatives from Abkhazia and South Ossetia to an informal meeting at Headquarters to consider a draft resolution on refugees. On that occasion, the United States had declined to grant visas to them. With respect to the incident on 29 September 2015, the Secretariat was not able to exercise due control over Headquarters in accordance with section 7 (a) of the Headquarters Agreement. He called on the Secretariat and the host country to not allow such situations to recur in the future.

25. The representative of Cyprus joined the representative of the Russian Federation and the observer of Serbia in expressing her delegation's concern regarding the presence of representatives of Kosovo at the event. Her delegation trusted that the matter would be fully reviewed.

26. The Chair noted that the meeting in question was organized at the margins of the general debate of the General Assembly. He recognized the sensitivities of Member States, and it was the responsibility of the delegations organizing the meetings or of the host country to observe the rules and practice of the United Nations in that respect. The Committee would continue to monitor the situation in the case of future similar meetings.

27. The observer for Serbia stated that, although the meeting was held at the margins of the general debate, it was nevertheless held at Headquarters and indicated in the calendar of meetings. In this regard, the participation of representatives of Kosovo and the access granted to them on the basis of a status equal to that of representatives of a Member State was incorrect.

Chapter IV
Recommendations and conclusions

28. **At its 274th meeting, on 30 October 2015, the Committee approved the following recommendations and conclusions:**

(a) **The Committee reaffirms the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, the provisions of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations;**

(b) **Considering that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the delegations and missions accredited to the United Nations is in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, the Committee appreciates the efforts made by the host country to that end and anticipates that all issues raised at its meetings, including those referred to below, will be duly settled in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;**

(c) **The Committee notes that the observance of privileges and immunities is an issue of great importance. The Committee emphasizes the need to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise in this regard for the normal functioning of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations. The Committee urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities. If violations occur, the Committee urges the host country to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;**

(d) **Considering that the security of the missions accredited to the United Nations and the safety of their personnel are indispensable for their effective functioning, the Committee appreciates the efforts made by the host country to this end and anticipates that the host country will continue to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of the missions;**

(e) **The Committee notes that permanent missions continue to implement the Diplomatic Parking Programme and shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuously ensuring the proper implementation of the programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;**

(f) **The Committee requests the host country to continue to bring to the attention of New York City officials reports about other problems experienced by permanent missions or their staff in order to improve the conditions for their functioning and to promote compliance with international norms concerning diplomatic privileges and immunities, and to continue to consult the Committee on those important issues;**

(g) **The Committee recalls that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI), the Committee shall consider and advise the host country on issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement;**

(h) The Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Headquarters Agreement to enable travel, in a timely manner, to New York on official United Nations business, including to attend official United Nations meetings, and notes that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for the issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States, since this time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings; the Committee also anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance efforts to facilitate the participation, including visa issuance, of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings, as appropriate. The Committee also remains seized of particular entry visa-related issues raised at its meetings and anticipates that these issues shall be duly addressed in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

(i) Concerning travel regulations issued by the host country with regard to personnel of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, the Committee urges the host country to remove the remaining travel restrictions and, in that regard, notes the positions of the affected Member States, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General, and of the host country;

(j) The Committee stresses the importance of permanent missions, their personnel and Secretariat personnel meeting their financial obligations;

(k) The Committee expresses concern over the difficulties that continue to be experienced by some permanent missions in obtaining suitable banking services, which are having a deleterious effect on the ability of those missions to perform their functions, and welcomes the significant efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for permanent missions with other financial institutions, taking note of General Assembly resolution 68/306 in this respect;

(l) The Committee takes note of matters raised under section III.C of the present report;

(m) The Committee welcomes the participation of States Members of the United Nations that are not members of the Committee in its work. The Committee also welcomes the contribution of the Secretariat to its work and emphasizes its importance. The Committee is convinced that its important work has been strengthened by the cooperation of all concerned;

(n) The Committee wishes to reiterate its appreciation to the representative of the United States Mission to the United Nations in charge of host country affairs, to the Host Country Affairs Section of the United States Mission and the Office of Foreign Missions, as well as to those local entities, in particular the Mayor's Office for International Affairs, that participate in its meetings and contribute to its efforts to help to accommodate the needs, interests and requirements of the diplomatic community and to promote mutual understanding between the diplomatic community and the people of the City of New York.

Annex I

List of topics for consideration by the Committee

1. Question of the security of missions and the safety of their personnel.
2. Consideration of and recommendations on issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, including:
   (a) Entry visas issued by the host country;
   (b) Acceleration of immigration and customs procedures;
   (c) Exemption from taxes.
3. Responsibilities of permanent missions to the United Nations and their personnel, in particular the problem of claims of financial indebtedness and procedures to be followed with a view to resolving the issues relating thereto.
4. Housing for diplomatic personnel and for Secretariat staff.
5. Question of privileges and immunities:
   (a) Comparative study of privileges and immunities;
   (b) Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and other relevant instruments.
6. Host country activities: activities to assist members of the United Nations community.
7. Transportation: use of motor vehicles, parking and related matters.
8. Insurance, education and health.
9. Public relations of the United Nations community in the host city and the question of encouraging the mass media to publicize the functions and status of permanent missions to the United Nations.
10. Consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

Annex II

List of documents

A/AC.154/407	Letter dated 8 May 2015 from the Minister Counsellor for Host Country Affairs of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
A/AC.154/408	Letter dated 25 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
A/AC.154/409	Letter dated 21 September 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

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Contents

		Page
I.	Introduction	4
II.	Organization of the work of the Conference	4
	A. 2015 session of the Conference	4
	B. Participants in the work of the Conference	6
	C. Attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference	6
	D. Agenda and programme of work for the 2015 session	7
	E. Expansion of the membership of the Conference	10
	F. Review of the agenda of the Conference	11
	G. Improved and effective functioning of the Conference	11
	H. Communications from non-governmental organizations	12
III.	Substantive work of the Conference during its 2015 session	12
	A. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament	14
	B. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters	17
	C. Prevention of an arms race in outer space	20
	D. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons	21
	E. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons	21
	F. Comprehensive programme of disarmament	21
	G. Transparency in armaments	22
	H. Consideration of other areas dealing with the cessation of the arms race and disarmament and other relevant measures	22
	I. Consideration and adoption of the annual report of the Conference and any other report as appropriate to the General Assembly of the United Nations	22

I. Introduction

1. The Conference on Disarmament submits to the seventieth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations its annual report on its 2015 session, together with the pertinent documents and records.

II. Organization of the work of the Conference

A. 2015 session of the Conference

2. The Conference was in session from 19 January to 27 March, 25 May to 10 July and 3 August to 18 September 2015. During this period, the Conference held 40 formal plenary meetings, at which member States as well as non-member States invited to participate in the discussions outlined their views and recommendations on the various issues before the Conference.

3. The Conference also held 33 informal plenary meetings on 24 March, 11 June (2), 16 June, 18 June, 19 June (IWG), 30 June, 2 July (2), 3 July (IWG), 9 July (2), 4 August (2), 6 August (2), 7 August, 11 August, 13 August (2), 18 August, 20 August (2), 21 August, 27 August (2), 2 September (2), 8 September, 9 September, 14 September, 15 September and 16 September.

4. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the following member States assumed successively the Presidency of the Conference: Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands and New Zealand.

5. At the first plenary meeting of the 2015 session on 20 January 2015, Mr. Michael Møller, Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, delivered a message on behalf of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in which the Secretary-General, inter alia, acknowledged the determined and creative efforts over the previous year to bring the Conference back to work and, while being encouraged that the Conference had found ways to continue deliberations on matters of substance, despite the long years of impasse, recalled that the Conference on Disarmament was not designed to deliberate but rather to negotiate, and urged its members to advance peace and security through disarmament (CD/PV.1330). Mr. Michael Møller reiterated the Secretary-General's message at the 1353rd plenary meeting of 27 May 2015, in which he had stated that the need for progress in multilateral disarmament was greater than ever, and called upon the Conference to resume its role of adding concrete value to the rule of law in disarmament (CD/PV.1353).

6. Upon the joint invitation of the second President of the Conference, Mr. Vaanchig Purevdorj, Ambassador of Mongolia and of the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Michael Møller, the following dignitaries addressed the Conference on Disarmament: Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (CD/PV.1342); Mr. Ramtane Lamamra, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria (CD/PV.1342); Ms. Margot Wallstrom, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden (CD/PV.1342); Mr. Bert Koenders, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands (CD/PV.1342); Mr. Eduardo Antonio Zuain, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina (CD/PV.1342); Mr. Sergiy Kyslytsya,

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (CD/PV.1342); Mr. Gebran Bassil, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon (CD/PV.1343); Ms. Mbarka Bouaida, Minister Delegate of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Morocco (CD/PV.1343); Mr. Sheik Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani, Minister's Assistant for International Cooperation Affairs of Qatar (CD/PV.1343); Mr. Naci Koru, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey (CD/PV.1343); Mr. Ri Su Yong, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (CD/PV.1344); Mr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany (CD/PV.1344); Mr. Sebastian Kurz, Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Austria (CD/PV.1344); Mr. Ignacio Ybáñez Rubio, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Spain (CD/PV.1344); Baroness Anelay of St Johns, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (CD/PV.1344); Mr. Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba (CD/PV.1344); Mr. Takashi Uto, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan (CD/PV.1344); Ms. Tamar Beruchashvili, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia (CD/PV.1345); Mr. Thant Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar (CD/PV.1345); Mr. Juan Manuel Gómez Robledo, Deputy Minister for Multilateral Affairs of Mexico (CD/PV.1345); Mr. Erlan Idrissov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan (CD/PV.1346); Mr. Manuel González Sanz, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica (CD/PV.1346); Mr. Cho Tae-yul, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea (CD/PV.1346); Mr. Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia (CD/PV.1346); Mr. Charles Flanagan, T.D., Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland (CD/PV.1347); Mr. Benedetto Della Vedova, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy (CD/PV.1347); Mr. Edgardo Riveros, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile (CD/PV.1347); Mr. Lundeg Purevsuren, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia (CD/PV.1348); Mr. Ibrahim Al-Jaafari, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq (CD/PV.1348); Mr. Francisco Echeverri Lara, Vice Minister for Multilateral Affairs of Colombia (CD/PV.1348), Mr. Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland (CD/PV.1349). Upon the invitation of the fifth President of the Conference, Mr. Henk Cor van der Kwast, Ambassador at Large and Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Conference on Disarmament, Mr. KIM Won-soo, Acting High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, addressed the Conference (CD/PV.1359).

7. In their addresses, these dignitaries variously voiced support for the Conference, expressed concern about the Conference's current situation, called upon the Conference to do its part to advance the international agenda by overcoming its ongoing deadlock, and set out their national priorities for the work of the Conference.

8. The Conference also heard a communication from Ambassador István Gyarmati, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (CD/PV.1337), in which he recalled the contribution made by UNIDIR to the Conference's work and sought members' support in solving UNIDIR's difficult financial and institutional situation.

9. On 6 July 2015, the Secretary-General of the United Nations appointed Mr. Michael Møller as Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and as his Personal Representative (CD/2029). The substantive secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament was composed as follows: Mr. Michael Møller, Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-

General of the United Nations (CD/1967 dated 27 January 2014 entitled "Appointment of the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament" and CD/2029 dated 7 August 2015 entitled "Appointment of the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament"); Mr. Thomas Markram, Acting Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Officer-in-Charge of the Geneva Branch, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (until 12 March); Ms. Gabriele Kraatz-Wadsack, Acting Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Officer-in-Charge of the Geneva Branch, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (from 1 June to 10 July); Mr. Ivor Richard Fung, Senior Political Affairs Officer and Secretary of the Conference on Disarmament (until 31 May) and Mr. Marco Kalbusch (as of 1 June), Senior Political Affairs Officer and Secretary of the Conference on Disarmament.

B. Participants in the work of the Conference

10. The representatives of the following 65 member States participated in the work of the Conference: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

C. Attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference

11. In accordance with the rules of procedure and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036), the Conference received and considered requests for participation in its work from 40 States not members of the Conference. Accordingly, the Conference invited the following non-member States to participate in its work: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Oman, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Arab Emirates and Uruguay.

12. The following document dealing with the issue of attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference was submitted to the Conference:

> CD/2012, dated 10 February 2015, entitled "Letter dated 28 January 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the requests for participation in the work of the Conference during 2015 from non-member States".

D. Agenda and programme of work for the 2015 session

13. At its 1330th plenary meeting on 20 January 2015, following a debate in which the content of the draft agenda presented by the President of the Conference, Mr. Jorge Lomónaco, Ambassador of Mexico, was reviewed in accordance with rule 29 of the rules of procedure, the Conference on Disarmament adopted its agenda for the 2015 session (CD/PV.1330). The agenda (CD/2008) read as follows:

> "Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and deciding to resume its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 2015 session:
>
> 1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
> 2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
> 3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
> 4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
> 5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.
> 6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.
> 7. Transparency in armaments.
> 8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations."

14. Subsequently, the President made the following statement: "In connection with the adoption of the agenda, I, as the President of the Conference, should like to state that it is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda. The Conference will also take into consideration rules 27 and 30 of the rules of procedure of the Conference."

15. Pursuant to paragraph 57 of the 2014 report of the Conference (CD/2004), the last President of the 2014 session (Malaysia) and the first President of the 2015 session (Mexico), conducted informal consultations during the intersessional period with a view to commencing early substantive work during the 2015 session of the Conference.

16. Following a discussion at the 1331st plenary meeting on 27 January 2015, at the 1334th plenary meeting on 29 January 2015 the President of the Conference, Mr. Jorge Lomónaco, Ambassador of Mexico, submitted for adoption a draft decision on a programme of work for the 2015 session. The draft decision did not achieve consensus (CD/PV.1334).

17. Throughout the 2015 session, successive Presidents of the Conference conducted intensive consultations with a view to reaching consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals. Delegations expressed their views on the issue of a programme of work, taking account of relevant proposals and suggestions, which are duly reflected in the plenary records. However, despite

these efforts, the Conference did not succeed in reaching consensus on a programme of work in 2015.

18. At the 1354th plenary meeting on 5 June 2015, the Conference adopted decision CD/2021, initially prepared under the presidency of Mongolia, submitted by the President of the Conference, Mr. Mohamed Auajjar, Ambassador of Morocco, on a schedule of activities of the 2015 session of the Conference on Disarmament, which read as follows:

> "1. While continuing to seek the path towards renewed negotiations, it is important that the Conference on Disarmament holds structured and substantive discussions on the four core items listed in its agenda contained in document CD/2008.
>
> 2. To this end it is the intention of the President of the Conference on Disarmament to hold a series of informal open-ended meetings, where possible with the participation of national experts.
>
> 3. The organization of these informal meetings is without prejudice to any future decision the Conference might take on its programme of work.
>
> 4. These informal discussions will complement but will not replace the Conference on Disarmament's ongoing activities, in particular the continuing debate towards the early adoption of a programme of work.
>
> 5. The informal meetings on the substantive agenda items will be coordinated by Representatives to the Conference, reflecting broad geographical balance. As such, meetings on agenda items 1 and 2 with a general focus on nuclear disarmament will be coordinated by Mr. Amr Ramadan, Ambassador of Egypt, agenda items 1 and 2 with a general focus on the ban of the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices by Mr. Michael Biontino, Ambassador of Germany, agenda item 3 by Mr. Matthew Rowland, Ambassador of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and agenda item 4 by Mr. Ravinatha P. Aryasinha, Ambassador of Sri Lanka.
>
> 6. Under the authority of the President, the coordinators will organize and chair the debates in a comprehensive manner and without preconditions, taking into account all relevant past, present and future views and proposals. These discussions are neither pre-negotiations nor negotiations.
>
> 7. The coordinators are required to report, in their personal capacity, on the discussions of the various substantive agenda items to the President who, in conjunction with each of them, would finalize the reports, under his/her own responsibility. The reports will not affect in any way the positions of the members of the Conference on Disarmament.
>
> 8. Following informal consultations with members of the Conference, the President will transmit, through a letter to be addressed to the Conference, the report of the coordinators prepared in their personal capacity."

19. At the 1354th plenary meeting on 5 June 2015, the Conference adopted decision CD/2022, initially prepared under the presidency of Mongolia, submitted by the President of the Conference, Mr. Mohamed Auajjar, Ambassador of Morocco, to re-establish an Informal Working Group, which read as follows:

"*The Conference on Disarmament*,

In pursuance of its agenda contained in CD/2008,

Stressing the importance of adoption and implementation of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date in its 2015 session,

Without prejudice to the rules of procedure of the Conference and the responsibilities entrusted to the President under the rules of procedure of the Conference on Disarmament, in particular rule 29 for drawing up the programme of work of the Conference,

decides,

1. To re-establish the informal working group (hereinafter referred to as the Group), pursuant to rule 23 of its rules of procedure, with a mandate to produce a programme of work robust in substance and progressive over time in implementation.

2. That the President of the Conference on Disarmament shall chair the Group and shall be assisted by a co-chair who shall carry out consultations on his/her behalf. For the 2015 session, the co-chair shall be Mrs. Päivi Kairamo, Ambassador of Finland.

3. That the Group shall remain open to all member States of the Conference on Disarmament and to those interested non-member States that the Conference has invited to participate, as observers, in its work during the 2015 session, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036).

4. That, in its work, the Group shall continue to use the rules of procedure of the Conference, mutatis mutandis. In particular, the Group shall conduct its work and adopt its decisions by consensus, as provided by rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Conference.

5. That the Group shall hold meetings during the 2015 session as per the timetable established by its co-chair in consultation with the President. Such meetings shall be open to all members and observers of the Conference, in accordance with paragraph 3 above.

6. That the co-chair shall report to the President of the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of the work of the Group on a regular basis and, at the President's request, to the plenary according to the rules of procedure. The President shall submit the final report on the work of the Group to the Conference as early as possible, but no later than the second week of the third part of the 2015 session of the Conference on Disarmament for consideration and adoption in accordance with the Conference's rules of procedure. Taking into account, and pursuant to rule 29 of the rules of procedure, the President will draw up a programme of work of the Conference for consideration and adoption."

20. Decisions CD/2021 and CD/2022 were adopted by consensus notwithstanding the wide divergence of views and differing levels of support of delegations

regarding the schedule of activities and the Informal Working Group, and their utility, which are reflected in the plenary records of the Conference (CD/PV.1354).

21. The Informal Working Group held two meetings, respectively on 19 June and 3 July 2015. On 7 August 2015, the President of the Conference, Mr. Henk Cor van der Kwast, Ambassador of the Netherlands, addressed a letter to the Conference submitting the report of the co-chair on the work of the Informal Working Group contained in CD/2033. At the 1363rd plenary on Monday 17 August, the Conference adopted the report of the co-chair. The views of delegations on the report contained in CD/2033 are duly reflected in the plenary records of the Conference (CD/PV.1362, CD/PV.1363 and CD/PV.1369).

22. The following document was submitted to the Conference:

> CD/2014 dated 10 February 2015 entitled "Note verbale dated 3 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, requesting that the draft programme of work for the 2015 session submitted by the Mexican Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament should be issued as an official document of the Conference."

E. Expansion of the membership of the Conference

23. The question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings (CD/PV.1330, CD/PV.1333, CD/PV.1336, CD/PV.1337, CD/PV.1338, CD/PV.1339, CD/PV.1343, CD/PV.1345 and CD/PV.1364). Their views are duly reflected in the plenary records. Suggestions were made for the appointment of a special rapporteur on enlargement.

24. The following documents were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/2030 dated 13 August 2015 entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Method of work of the Conference on Disarmament and revitalization";

(b) CD/2034 dated 21 August 2015 entitled "Letter dated 21 August 2015 from the President of the Conference on Disarmament and Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a letter from Latvia as the Coordinator of the Informal Group of Observer States, transmitting a working paper on enlargement".[1]

25. Since 1982, requests for membership have been received from the following 27 non-members, in chronological order: Greece, Croatia, Kuwait, Portugal, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Ghana, Luxembourg, Uruguay, Philippines, Azerbaijan, Libya, Armenia, Thailand, Georgia, Jordan, Estonia, Latvia, Malta, Serbia, Republic of Moldova and Qatar.

[1] The terminology in the title of document CD/2034 is as submitted and does not imply a change in the rules of procedure of the Conference on Disarmament.

F. Review of the agenda of the Conference

26. The review of the agenda of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

G. Improved and effective functioning of the Conference

27. The improved and effective functioning of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

28. Following a discussion at the 1335th plenary meeting on 4 February 2015 and at the 1336th plenary meeting on 10 February 2015, at the 1338th plenary meeting on 13 February 2015 the President of the Conference, Mr. Jorge Lomónaco, Ambassador of Mexico, submitted for adoption a revised draft decision on civil society participation at the Conference on Disarmament. The draft decision did not achieve consensus (CD/PV.1338).

29. Following a discussion at the 1336th plenary meeting on 10 February 2015, at the 1338th plenary meeting on 13 February 2015 the President of the Conference, Mr. Jorge Lomónaco, Ambassador of Mexico, submitted for adoption a revised draft decision on the establishment of a working group to review the methods of work of the Conference on Disarmament. The draft decision did not achieve consensus (CD/PV.1338).

30. At the 1360th plenary meeting on 8 July 2015, the President, Mr. Henk Cor van der Kwast, Ambassador of the Netherlands, submitted for adoption a draft decision on the appointment of a special coordinator to seek views and receive proposals on the methods of work with a view to improved and effective functioning of the Conference on Disarmament as contained in CD/PV.1360. The draft decision did not achieve consensus.

31. Throughout the 2015 session, successive Presidents of the Conference conducted intensive consultations with a view to reaching consensus on the review of the methods of work on the basis of relevant proposals. Proposals were made for the Conference to explore ways to more effectively use information technology and to hasten access to records of the Conference on Disarmament.

32. The following documents were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/2017, dated 16 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 13 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the President's summary for the period corresponding to the first Presidency of the 2015 session of the Conference held by Mexico from 19th January to 15th February 2015".

(b) CD/2030 dated 13 August 2015 entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Method of work of the Conference on Disarmament and revitalization";

(c) CD/2035 dated 24 August 2015 entitled "Letter dated 21 August 2015 from the President of the Conference on Disarmament and Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a

letter addressed to the members and observer States of the Conference providing suggestions on possible ways forward for the Conference on Disarmament".[2]

H. Communications from non-governmental organizations

33. In accordance with rule 42 of the rules of procedure, a list of communications from non-governmental organizations or their representatives was circulated to the Conference (CD/NGC/49).

34. In line with the decision taken at the 1172nd plenary meeting to mark International Women's Day (CD/PV.1172), at the 1350th plenary meeting on 10 March 2015 Ms. Mia Gandenberger read a statement on behalf of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, which also noted they would be suspending their coverage of the Conference (CD/PV.1350).

35. At the 1352nd plenary meeting on 24 March 2015, delegations discussed the informal Conference on Disarmament-Civil Society Forum, held under the authority of the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, Mr. Michael Møller, on 19 March 2015 (CD/PV.1352). The Forum provided a venue for interactive discussion with civil society.

36. During the general debate, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the Conference's interaction with civil society. Their views are duly reflected in the plenary records of the Conference.

37. The following document was submitted to the Conference:

CD/2030 dated 13 August 2015 entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Method of work of the Conference on Disarmament and revitalization".

III. Substantive work of the Conference during its 2015 session

38. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations affirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda items. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

39. Pursuant to the decision on a schedule of activities for the 2015 session (CD/2021), the Conference held informal meetings on four substantive agenda items, coordinated by Representatives to the Conference, during which in-depth, comprehensive and structured discussions took place.

40. Informal meetings on agenda items 1 and 2 with a general focus on nuclear disarmament were coordinated by Mr. Amr Ramadan, Ambassador of Egypt; agenda items 1 and 2 with a general focus on the ban of the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices by Mr. Michael Biontino, Ambassador of Germany; agenda item 3 by Mr. Matthew Rowland, Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; agenda item 4 by Mr. Ravinatha P. Aryasinha, Ambassador of Sri Lanka.

[2] The terminology in the title of document CD/2035 is as submitted and does not imply a change in the rules of procedure of the Conference on Disarmament.

41. On 15 September 2015, pursuant to CD/2021, the President of the Conference, Ms. Dell Higgie, Ambassador of New Zealand, addressed a letter to the Conference transmitting the reports of the four Coordinators on the discussions held on the substantive agenda items, pursuant to the schedule of activities adopted by the Conference (CD/2043). Views of member States are reflected in the plenary records of the Conference.

42. In addition to the informal meetings held pursuant to CD/2021, on the initiative of the President of the Conference, Mr. Henk Cor van der Kwast, Ambassador of the Netherlands (CD/PV.1359), and with the agreement of the Conference, informal meetings were held on "the status of nuclear disarmament and possible further steps" on 4 August 2015; on "the ban of the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices" on 6 August 2015; on "negative security assurances" on 7 August 2015; on "gender and disarmament" on 11 August 2015; and on "the prevention of an arms race in outer space and possible further steps" on 19 August 2015.

43. The list of documents issued by the Conference, as well as the texts of those documents, are included as Appendix I to this report. An index of the verbatim records, by country and by subject, listing the statements made by delegations during 2015 and the verbatim records of the formal plenary meetings of the Conference, is attached as Appendix II to this report.

44. The Conference had before it a letter dated 15 January 2015 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitting the resolutions and decision on disarmament and international security matters adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session in 2014, including those making specific reference to the Conference on Disarmament (CD/2007 and Add.1). The latter are listed below:

69/27	Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament (5th preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
69/30	Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (10th, 12th, 13th, 16th preambular paragraphs and operative paragraphs 2, 4, 5)
69/31	Prevention of an arms race in outer space (6th, 11th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th preambular paragraphs and operative paragraphs 5, 6, 8)
69/32	No first placement of weapons in outer space (7th preambular paragraph, operative paragraphs 2 and 3)
69/37	Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments (20th preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 11)
69/38	Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities (6th, 7th preambular paragraphs and operative paragraph 3)

69/41	Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations (4th preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 1)
69/43	Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons (12th, 13th preambular paragraphs)
69/45	Regional disarmament (operative paragraph 1)
69/47	Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels (operative paragraph 2)
69/48	Nuclear disarmament (15th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd preambular paragraphs and operative paragraphs 16, 17, 20)
69/52	United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons (12th preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 11)
69/58	Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament (operative paragraphs 4, 6, 11)
69/68	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (4th preambular paragraph)
69/69	Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons (9th preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 1, 2)
69/71	United Nations Disarmament Information Programme (operative paragraph 5)
69/76	Report of the Conference on Disarmament (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 11th, 12th preambular paragraphs and operative paragraphs 1 to 11)
69/77	Report of the Disarmament Commission (operative paragraphs 2, 8)
Decision 69/519	Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations

A. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament

45. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

46. On the proposal of the President of the Conference, Mr. Vaanchig Purevdorj of Mongolia, one plenary meeting on agenda item 1 entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament" and agenda item 2 entitled "Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters" with a general focus on nuclear disarmament was held on 24 February 2015.

47. The following documents were submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

(a) CD/2005, dated 8 October 2014, entitled "Note verbale, dated 3 October 2014, to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament from the Permanent Mission of Cuba, transmitting a declaration of the International Relations Committee of the Peoples' National Assembly of Cuba, dated 26 September 2014, expressing support for the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons";

(b) CD/2006, dated 14 October 2014, entitled "Note verbale dated 9 October 2014 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its capacity as Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the declaration of the Non-Aligned Movement to commemorate the International Day for the total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, celebrated on 26 September 2014";

(c) CD/2009, dated 23 January 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 20 January 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Chair's summary of the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, which took place on 8 and 9 December 2014 in Vienna";

(d) CD/2010, dated 23 January 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 20 January 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Austrian Pledge that was presented by Austria in her national capacity at the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, which took place on 8 and 9 December 2014 in Vienna";

(e) CD/2011, dated 9 February 2015, entitled "Letter dated 22 January 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the joint statement by interested States in support of the Conference, delivered in the First Committee at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly";

(f) CD/2013, dated 10 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 2 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a compendium of mandates given to the Conference on Disarmament by the General Assembly of the United Nations prepared by the Secretariat of the Conference";

(g) CD/2015, dated 11 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 26 January 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the joint statement on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons delivered by New Zealand on behalf of 155 States during the First Committee at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on 20 October 2014";

(h) CD/2016, dated 12 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 11 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting, in its capacity as Coordinator of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, the text of the special declaration on the urgent need of a world free of nuclear weapons adopted during the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government Officials of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) held on 28 and 29 January 2015 in Belén, Costa Rica";

(i) CD/2018, dated 18 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 17 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the P5 statement issued at the P5 Conference on 5 February 2015 in London";

(j) CD/2019, dated 12 March 2015, entitled "Letter dated 10 March 2015 from the Permanent Representative of France to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the statement made by the President of France, Mr. François Hollande, in Istres, France, on 19 February 2015";

(k) CD/2020, dated 13 April 2015, entitled "Letter dated 9 April 2015 from the Permanent Representative of France to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting a draft Treaty Banning the Production of Fissile Material for Nuclear Weapons or Other Nuclear Explosive Devices prepared by the Government of France";

(l) CD/2023, dated 24 June 2015, entitled "Letter dated 22 June 2015 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established by resolution 67/53 to make recommendations on possible aspects that could contribute to but not negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices";

(m) CD/2024, dated 1 July 2015, entitled "Canada. Working paper. Considering verification implications of fissile material definitions and of fissile material categories for future treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices";

(n) CD/2025, dated 1 July 2015, entitled "Canada. Working paper. Questions to stimulate discussion of the elements of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices";

(o) CD/2026, dated 1 July 2015, entitled "Letter dated 30 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the paper entitled "Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" submitted by New Zealand on behalf of the New Agenda Coalition to the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons";

(p) CD/2027 and Corr.1 (English only), dated 27 July 2015, entitled "Australia. Working paper. Protection of sensitive information under FMCT verification";

(q) CD/2028 and Corr.1, dated 27 July 2015, entitled "Australia. Working paper. Fissile material types potentially relevant to FMCT verification";

(r) CD/2030 dated 13 August 2015 entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Method of work of the Conference on Disarmament and revitalization";

(s) CD/2032 dated 13 August 2015 entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Follow-up to the 2013 high-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament";

(t) CD/2036 dated 24 August 2015 entitled "Pakistan. Working paper. Elements of a Fissile Material Treaty (FMT)";

(u) CD/2038*, dated 28 August 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 25 August 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the joint statement on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons delivered by the Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Austria during the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 28 April 2015";

(v) CD/2039*, dated 28 August 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 25 August 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting text of the humanitarian pledge supported by 114 Members of the United Nations";

(w) CD/2040*, dated 28 August 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 27 August 2015 from the Delegation of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the report of the United States of America to the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons pursuant to actions 5, 20 and 21 of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons";

(x) CD/2044, dated 18 September 2015, entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Nuclear disarmament".

48. In accordance with CD/2021, agenda items 1 and 2 were considered in informal plenary meetings on 11 and 18 June and 2 and 9 July 2015 under the coordinatorship of Mr. Amr Ramadan, Ambassador of Egypt, and Mr. Michael Biontino, Ambassador of Germany.

B. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters

49. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

50. On the proposal of the President of the Conference, Mr. Vaanchig Purevdorj of Mongolia, one plenary meeting on agenda item 1 entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament" and agenda item 2 entitled "Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters" with a general focus on the ban of the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices was held on 26 February 2015.

51. The following documents were submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

(a) CD/2005, dated 8 October 2014, entitled "Note verbale, dated 3 October 2014, to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament from the

Permanent Mission of Cuba, transmitting a declaration of the International Relations Committee of the Peoples' National Assembly of Cuba, dated 26 September 2014, expressing support for the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons";

(b) CD/2006, dated 14 October 2014, entitled "Note verbale dated 9 October 2014 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its capacity as Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the declaration of the Non-Aligned Movement to commemorate the International Day for the total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, celebrated on 26 September 2014";

(c) CD/2009, dated 23 January 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 20 January 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Chair's summary of the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, which took place on 8 and 9 December 2014 in Vienna";

(d) CD/2010, dated 23 January 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 20 January 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Austrian Pledge that was presented by Austria in her national capacity at the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, which took place on 8 and 9 December 2014 in Vienna";

(e) CD/2011, dated 9 February 2015, entitled "Letter dated 22 January 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the joint statement by interested States in support of the Conference, delivered in the First Committee at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly";

(f) CD/2013, dated 10 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 2 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a compendium of mandates given to the Conference on Disarmament by the General Assembly of the United Nations prepared by the Secretariat of the Conference";

(g) CD/2015, dated 11 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 26 January 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the joint statement on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons delivered by New Zealand on behalf of 155 States during the First Committee at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on 20 October 2014";

(h) CD/2016, dated 12 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 11 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting, in its capacity as Coordinator of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, the text of the special declaration on the urgent need of a world free of nuclear weapons adopted during the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government Officials of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) held on 28 and 29 January 2015 in Belén, Costa Rica";

(i) CD/2018, dated 18 February 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 17 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the P5 statement issued at the P5 Conference on 5 February 2015 in London";

(j) CD/2019, dated 12 March 2015, entitled "Letter dated 10 March 2015 from the Permanent Representative of France to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the statement made by the President of France, Mr. François Hollande, in Istres, France, on 19 February 2015";

(k) CD/2020, dated 13 April 2015, entitled "Letter dated 9 April 2015 from the Permanent Representative of France to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting a draft Treaty Banning the Production of Fissile Material for Nuclear Weapons or Other Nuclear Explosive Devices prepared by the Government of France";

(l) CD/2023, dated 24 June 2015, entitled "Letter dated 22 June 2015 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established by resolution 67/53 to make recommendations on possible aspects that could contribute to but not negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices";

(m) CD/2024, dated 1 July 2015, entitled "Canada. Working paper. Considering verification implications of fissile material definitions and of fissile material categories for future treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices";

(n) CD/2025, dated 1 July 2015, entitled "Canada. Working paper. Questions to stimulate discussion of the elements of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices";

(o) CD/2026, dated 1 July 2015, entitled "Letter dated 30 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the paper entitled "Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" submitted by New Zealand on behalf of the New Agenda Coalition to the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons";

(p) CD/2027 and Corr.1 (English only), dated 27 July 2015, entitled "Australia. Working paper. Protection of sensitive information under FMCT verification";

(q) CD/2028 and Corr.1, dated 27 July 2015, entitled "Australia. Working paper. Fissile material types potentially relevant to FMCT verification";

(r) CD/2030 dated 13 August 2015 entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Method of work of the Conference on Disarmament and revitalization";

(s) CD/2032 dated 13 August 2015 entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Follow-up to the 2013 high-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament";

(t) CD/2036 dated 24 August 2015 entitled "Pakistan. Working paper. Elements of a Fissile Material Treaty (FMT)";

(u) CD/2038*, dated 28 August 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 25 August 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the joint statement on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons delivered by the Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Austria during the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 28 April 2015";

(v) CD/2039*, dated 28 August 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 25 August 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Austria addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting text of the humanitarian pledge supported by 114 Members of the United Nations";

(w) CD/2040*, dated 28 August 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 27 August 2015 from the Delegation of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the report of the United States of America to the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons pursuant to actions 5, 20 and 21 of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons";

(x) CD/2044, dated 18 September 2015, entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Nuclear disarmament".

52. In accordance with CD/2021, agenda items 1 and 2 were considered in informal plenary meetings on 11 and 18 June and 2 and 9 July 2015 under the coordinatorship of Mr. Amr Ramadan, Ambassador of Egypt, and Mr. Michael Biontino, Ambassador of Germany.

C. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

53. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

54. On the proposal of the President of the Conference, Mr. Vaanchig Purevdorj of Mongolia, one plenary meeting on agenda item 3 entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" was held on 9 March 2015.

55. The following documents were submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

(a) CD/2031, dated 13 August 2015, entitled "Indonesia on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS)";

(b) CD/2042, dated 14 September 2015, entitled "Letter dated 11 September 2015 from the Permanent Representative of China to the Conference on

Disarmament and the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the comments by China and the Russian Federation regarding the United States of America analysis of the 2014 updated Russian and Chinese texts of the draft treaty on prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects (PPWT)".

56. In accordance with CD/2021, agenda item 3 was considered in informal plenary meetings on 13 and 20 August 2015 under the coordinatorship of Mr. Matthew Rowland, Ambassador of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

D. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

57. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

58. On the proposal of the President of the Conference, Mr. Vaanchig Purevdorj of Mongolia, one plenary meeting on agenda item 4 entitled "Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" was held on 10 March 2015.

59. The following document was submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

> CD/2045, dated 18 September 2015, entitled "Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Negative security assurances".

60. In accordance with CD/2021, agenda item 4 was considered in an informal plenary meeting on 27 August 2015 under the coordinatorship of Mr. Ravinatha P. Aryasinha, Ambassador of Sri Lanka.

E. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons

61. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

F. Comprehensive programme of disarmament

62. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

G. Transparency in armaments

63. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

H. Consideration of other areas dealing with the cessation of the arms race and disarmament and other relevant measures

64. The following documents were submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

(a) CD/2037, dated 24 August 2015 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 21 August 2015 from the Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the statement delivered by the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 21 August 2015";

(b) CD/2041, dated 3 September 2015, entitled "Note verbale dated 2 September 2015 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea addressed to the Secretary General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the joint press release from the Inter-Korean High Level Meeting held from 22 to 24 August 2015 at the village of Panmunjom".

I. Consideration and adoption of the annual report of the Conference and any other report as appropriate to the General Assembly of the United Nations

65. Being aware of the growing importance and need of progress of multilateral disarmament, and building on the focused efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to establish a programme of work for the 2015 session and with a view to early commencement of substantive work during its 2016 session, the Conference requested the current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference on Disarmament, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations.

66. The Conference decided that the dates for its 2016 session would be:

First part:	25 January-1 April
Second part:	16 May-1 July
Third part:	2 August-16 September.

67. The annual report to the seventieth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, as adopted by the Conference on 18 September 2015, is transmitted by the President on behalf of the Conference on Disarmament.

Ambassador Dell Higgie
New Zealand
President of the Conference

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